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VISIT WITH DR. JOE W. HOWLAND, CHAPEL HILL HOLIDAY INN, APRIL 24, 1974

The following is a summary of the conversation with Dr. Howland.

Dr. Howland was initially stationed with the Manhattan Engineering medicine District in New York and was responsible for occupational/aspects of the various activity in mainly production plants. Subsequently, he was transferred to Oak Ridge where he was involved in research until 1947 and subsequently was involved in the organization of the Division of Biology and Medicine of the newly formed AEC.

While Dr. Howland was in Oak Ridge he was aware that the need existed for information on the biological behavior of plutonium in humans. It is possible that at this time the Oak Ridge group including Howland had prepared the design of experiment which plutonium would be injected in a patient. In April, 1945, a patient) was admitted to the Oak Ridge Hospital with multiple fractures resulting from an automobile accident. Dr. Hymer Friedell informed Dr. Howland that he considered the patient to be a suitable candidate for the human plutonium experiment. Dr. Howland indicated that he did not agree with Dr. Friedell. Subsequently, Friedell ordered Dr. Howland to inject the patient with plutonium. Howland complies after receiving a written military form/ ^{stating} Friedell that he (Friedell) ordered Howland to inject the patient. During the period that the patient was hospitalized in Oak Ridge, Howland was actively involved in the followup of the patient. The patient recovered, moved to Atlanta, and was subsequently lost to followup.

Dr. Howland emphatically stated that no consent was obtained from the patient at any time and that as far as he knew, the patient had no relatives in the Oak Ridge area. Dr. Howland was not involved in any of the other human plutonium studies.

Dr. Howland, on his return to Rochester, was put in charge of the metabolic ward. To his knowledge, the metabolic ward was not involved at any time in the followup of plutonium patients.

In discussing Dr. Bassett's early involvement in human plutonium studies, Dr. Howland stated that in his judgement it is entirely conceivable that Dr. Bassett would obtain consent from the patient. This statement is based on Howland's judgement of Dr. Bassett as a person, rather than direct knowledge of the circumstances of the experiments.